

Remarks

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined. Claim 1-5 and 7-9 are rejected. Claims 1-5 and 7-9 are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Examiner states that the features of claims 4 and 5 must be shown or the features canceled from the claims. A feature of claim 4, namely a solid post alignment feature comprising a transmissive material, is shown in Figure 24 of the current application. A feature of claim 5, namely a solid partial sphere alignment feature comprising a transmissive material is shown in Figure 25 of the current application. Because Figures 24 and 25, showing the features of claims 4 and 5 respectively, were previously part of the current application, it is believed that the drawing are compliant under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 7-9 as being anticipated by Yamane et al. (US 6,126,325). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

It is axiomatic that “[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration.” *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. V. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554, 220 USPQ 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

Therefore, every claimed feature of the claimed invention must be represented in the applied reference to constitute a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

The Examiner states:

In terms of claim 1, Yamane disclose a package including an optoelectronic component (Fig. 9A-9C); an alignment feature (73b) mounted to the surface of the package (80); and a sleeve defining only one bore with an inner surface having a constant inner diameter (110B) for receiving and **contacting outer surfaces of the alignment feature** (500) and the ferrule are inserted into the bore at opposite ends of the bore so they can be aligned relative to each other.

(See Office Action, page 3; Emphasis added)

Applicants point out that the Examiner states that an alignment feature is labeled (73b) and (500). An alignment feature labeled (500) is not shown in Yamane either in the specification or drawings. For the sake of the following discussion, Applicants refer to a ferrule labeled (73b).

In the present case, not every feature of claims 1 and 2 are represented in the Yamane reference. Applicants respectfully submit that Yamane does not disclose a sleeve defining only one bore with an inner surface having a constant inner diameter for receiving and **contacting outer surfaces of the alignment feature**. Figure 9B of Yamane shows a ferrule (73B), not an alignment feature (col. 10, line 48 of Yamane). Figure 9C shows a ferrule (73B) inserted into a bore of a sleeve (100B). Figure 9C

clearly shows that the outer surface of the ferrule (73B) does not make contact with the inner surface of the bore of the sleeve (100B).

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that Yamane does not anticipate Applicants' claims 1 and 2. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 2 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 3, 8, and 9 further define patentably distinct independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 3, 8, and 9 are also believed to be allowable. For at least the above reason, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 3, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Dependent claim 7 further defines patentably distinct independent claim 2. Therefore, dependent claim 7 is also believed to be allowable. For at least the above reason, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 4-5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants' pending claims (1-5 and 7-9) are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

September 8, 2008

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